

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5589
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2005
RASHTRIYA KRISHAK AYO
Modi Shri Sushil Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 'Rashtriya Krishak Ayog' have taken any initiative for preparing a report on the basic issues affecting lives and livelihood of farmers, such as, suicides by farmers, reasons of suicides and corrective measures, rain based agriculture system, situations of draughts and floods, women farmers and role of Panchayati Raj institutions, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the other issues which have been focussed in the report;
- (d) the action taken by the Government for implementation of the report; and
- (e) the time by which the recommendations of the report are likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) to (e): Yes, Sir. The Commission has submitted its first interim Report titled 'Serving Farmers and Saving Farming' in December, 2004. It deals with integrated life saving support programme for farm families facing acute distress, productivity and livelihood enhancement in rainfed areas, a new deal for women in agriculture, strengthening and expanding the horticulture revolution, enhancing productivity, quality and global competitiveness of cotton, sustaining and expanding trade of farm commodities and its sanitary and phytosanitary dimensions, village as knowledge centre and food and nutrition security of livestock and livelihoods. The report also covers rehabilitation of fishermen and farm families from distress due to TSUNAMI, empowerment of community based organizations and Panchayati Raj institutions and administrative initiatives like creation of a Gram Panchayat Mahila Fund for women.

The recommendations made in the interim report are not entirely in keeping with the Terms of Reference of the Commission and the Government is in dialogue with the Commission on this matter. Several recommendations made by the Commission are already covered under the existing schemes of the Government and the schemes to be taken up in the annual plan for this year. In respect of Village Knowledge Centers, the Finance Minister has already announced in his Budget Speech that the initiative will be supported through NABARD. The recommendations require examination by various Departments for which action has been initiated.